

Response under 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Applicant: Michael Whitmarsh et al.

Serial No.: 09/710,287

Filed: November 10, 2000

Docket No.: 10003977-1

Title: PRINT PROCESSING SYSTEM AND METHOD WITH DOCUMENT ADVISOR SERVICE

REMARKS

The following Remarks are made in response to the Final Office Action mailed November 2, 2005, in which claims 1-3, 5-22, and 25-39 were rejected. Claims 1-3, 5-22, and 25-39 remain pending in the application and are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-3, 5-22, and 25-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sevcik et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,330,542 and in view of Nakatsuyama U.S. Patent No. 5,875,441.

Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Independent claim 1 is directed to a method of processing a print job as defined by a data file for the print job and a print request identifying at least one attribute of the print job as specified by the customer, and includes determining at least one document type for the print job with the print processing system controller based on characteristics of the print job as included in the data file for the print job, including processing the data file for the print job and analyzing characteristics of the print job with the print processing system controller to determine the at least one document type for the print job, and includes receiving the print request for the print job at the print processing system controller via the network communication link, with the print request specifying a document type for the print job from the at least one document type for the print job and identifying the at least one attribute of the print job as specified by the customer.

Independent claim 19 is directed to a system for processing a print job as defined by a data file for the print job and a print request identifying at least one attribute of the print job as specified by the customer, wherein the print processing system controller is adapted to present the at least one document type for the print job to the customer, and receive the print request for the print job from the customer, wherein the print request specifies a document type for the print job from the at least one document type for the print job and identifies the at least one attribute of the print job as specified by the customer.

Regarding independent claims 1 and 19, the Examiner contends that the Sevcik et al. patent discloses providing a print processing system controller having a printing capability of

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the print providers registered therewith, defining a network communication link between the customer and the print processing system controller, receiving the data file for the print job at the print processing system controller via the network communication link, determining at least one document type for the print job via the print processing system controller, including processing the data file for the print job to determine the at least one document type for the print job, presenting the at least one document type for the print job to the customer via the network communication link, and receiving the print request for the print job at the print processing system controller via the network communication link, the print request specifying a document type for the print job from the at least one document type for the print job and identifying the at least one attribute of the print job as specified by the customer (Detailed Action, pages 2-3). The Examiner recognizes, however, that the Sevcik et al. patent does not disclose determining a type of document based on the characteristics of the print job as included in the data file for the print job and analyzed by the print processing system controller (Detailed Action, page 3). As such, the Examiner contends that the Nakatsuyama patent discloses a method for determining a type of document based on the characteristics of the print job as included in the data file for the print job and analyzed by the print processing system controller (Detailed Action, page 3). Thus, regarding independent claims 1 and 19, the Examiner suggests that it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the Sevcik et al. patent in view of the Nakatsuyama patent by allowing users to search for the type of documents based upon user's input requests and displaying the results to the users (Detailed Action, pages 3-4).

Applicant, however, submits that modifying the Sevcik et al. patent in view of the Nakatsuyama patent would not result in the present invention. For example, the system of the Nakatsuyama patent takes a query 3a as input and retrieves specific document types that can generate a document satisfying the query 3a, wherein the query is designed by the user and includes a designation such as an element type of an element in a document, a connection relationship between elements, and a string that is included in a text in an element (col. 6, lines 47-59). As such, the query 3a of the Nakatsuyama patent is a condition that documents to be retrieved should satisfy (col. 6, lines 47-48). Accordingly, with the system of the Nakatsuyama patent, only document types that can generate a document satisfying the query 3a of the user are retrieved (col. 7, lines 12-15). The system of the Nakatsuyama patent,

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however, does not determine a document type for the print job based on characteristics of the print job as included in a data file for the print job, wherein the data file for the print job is distinguished from a print request for the print job in that the print request identifies at least one attribute of the print job as specified by the customer.

Accordingly, modifying the Sevcik et al. patent in view of the Nakatsuyama patent would not overcome the shortcomings of the Sevcik et al. patent and, therefore, would not result in the present invention. Thus, Applicant submits that the combination of the Sevcik et al. patent in view of the Nakatsuyama patent does not teach or suggest a method of processing a print job as claimed in independent claim 1, nor a system for processing a print job as claimed in independent claim 19.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that independent claims 1 and 19 are each patentably distinct from the Sevcik et al. and Nakatsuyama patents and, therefore, are each in a condition for allowance. Furthermore, as dependent claims 2-3 and 5-18 further define patentably distinct claim 1, and dependent claims 20-22 and 25-39 further define patentably distinct claim 19, Applicant submits that these dependent claims are also in a condition for allowance. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1-3, 5-22, and 25-39 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) be reconsidered and withdrawn and that claims 1-3, 5-22, and 25-39 be allowed.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 1-3, 5-22, and 25-39 are all in a condition for allowance and requests reconsideration of the application and allowance of all pending claims.

Any inquiry regarding this Response should be directed to either Nathan Rieth at Telephone No. (208) 396-5287, Facsimile No. (208) 396-3958 or Scott A. Lund at Telephone No. (612) 573-2006, Facsimile No. (612) 573-2005. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

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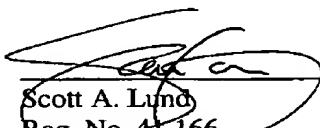
Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, are being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. (571) 273-8300 on this 3rd day of January, 2006.

By 
Name: Scott A. Lund